

<p style="text-align: center;">Motions for the May 4, 2009 Annual Town Meeting Session 8 – June 24, 2009</p>

Article 22: Library Services

I move that the Town approve the Library Services operating budget of \$2,093,584, and that the Town raise and appropriate \$1,468,029 as its share of that budget.

Article 24: I move in terms of the article

Article 28: I move in terms of the article, except to replace paragraph “a” with the following:

a) to acquire from the Trustees of Amherst College or their successor by eminent domain, purchase, gift or otherwise the land and improvements of Parcel 248 of Map 14A of the Town Cadastre, located at 79 South Pleasant Street and comprising 16,678 square feet/0.38 acres more or less, for downtown revitalization, economic development, parking, pedestrian and other municipal purposes and to fund such acquisition appropriate \$1,016,800, and to meet such appropriation to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow \$1,016,800 pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor; and further to authorize the application for and acceptance of any gifts, bequests, or grants from the federal government, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or otherwise and further authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement for said grants;

Article 29: I move to appropriate and transfer \$900,000 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to balance the 2010 Fiscal Year Budget.

Article 30: I move to dismiss this article.

Article 13: See reverse side of page

Article 13:

Whereas, road and sidewalk reconstruction and repair provides decent jobs at above living wage standards; and,

Whereas, decent roads and sidewalks are necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles including public transportation and school buses, and for safe walking and bicycling, and

Whereas, it is estimated that it will take \$15 to \$19 billion over the next twenty years simply to maintain Massachusetts' transportation infrastructure in its present deplorable condition; and,

Whereas, many of Amherst's primary roads and sidewalks, and most of its secondary and tertiary roads are in deteriorated and unsafe condition; and,

Whereas, an annual increase of 1/2¢/gallon in the Massachusetts gasoline tax from 1991 forward would have provided sufficient funding to prevent the deterioration of Massachusetts' transportation infrastructure and its funding mechanisms; and,

Whereas, Massachusetts' gasoline tax of 23.5¢/gallon was last increased by x¢ in 1991, when the average price of regular unleaded gasoline was \$1.14/gallon (\$1.45 in C\$) and oil was \$24/barrel (\$30.5 in C\$); and that tax has, as a consequence, lost 1/3 of its purchasing power since the commodities and services it purchases have also escalated in price; and,

Whereas, the Massachusetts House of Representatives and State Senate voted in the State Budget both adopted on Friday, June 19, 2009 to designate for transportation purposes \$275 million of the \$759 million estimated to be raised by a 1.25¢ increase in the sales tax – that \$275 million being an amount equivalent to a 10¢ increase in the state's gasoline tax;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Amherst's Representative Town Meeting requests that its state legislators and the leaders of the Massachusetts General Court support, at or near the levels proposed by the Patrick Administration, an increase in the Commonwealth's gasoline tax with the following reservations and conditions:

that in the year when such a gasoline tax increase takes effect, that forward-funding for all regional transit authorities (RTAs) sufficient to preserve services at the FY 2009 level being and continue on as long as that gasoline tax increase continues to be collected; and

that 15% of all gas tax receipts be allocated to Chapter 90 aid to cities and towns; and,

that Chapter 81, which provided that 7.5% of all gas tax revenues be allocated to cities and towns via the Cherry Sheet for policing and maintaining local roads, be reinstated; and,

that at least 80% of all gas tax receipts be allocated to the regions from which they are collected, which allocation shall include Chapters 81 and 90 and RTA allocations, rail infrastructure and service improvements, bikeway funding, etc; and,

that gasoline used for municipal and school vehicles and for tax-supported public transportation vehicles be exempted entirely from the Massachusetts gasoline tax; and,

Further be it resolved that a copy of this resolution as finally voted by the Amherst Representative Town Meeting be sent by the Town Clerk to Governor Deval Patrick, to State Senate President Therese Murray, to Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo, to State Senator Stanley Rosenberg, and to State Representative Ellen Story.